

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification, page 1, paragraph [0003], as follows:

Patent claims are generally directed to a nucleotide and/or polypeptide sequence invention and other sequences having a claimed level (e.g., percentage) of sequence identity to that invention. Freedom to operate and patentability assessments related to such claims can be based on queries of databases of such sequences, where such databases can include, for example, PAT 10, GENESEQ 5, EMBL, ~~GenBank~~ GENBANK, and DDBJ. Unfortunately, search tools often do not identify sequences that may be within the scope of the patent claims, thus potentially causing an inaccurate evaluation and/or assessment of intellectual property rights.